



State Senator
BOB DUFF

Representing Norwalk & Darien

Legislative Office Building, Room 2400
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Capitol: 1-800-842-1420

Home: 203-840-1333

E-mail: Bob.Duff@cga.ct.gov

Web: SenatorDuff.cga.ct.gov

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State Senator Bob Duff's LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Along with other local elected officials and the Darien Chamber of Commerce, I was pleased to join the owners of The Goose at their ribbon-cutting celebration.

JOBS, JOBS AND JOBS

There was no greater priority this legislative session than helping Connecticut create high-quality jobs.

Provisions of our new jobs law include:

- Loans for small businesses to help fund expansions and additional hires
- Sales tax exemptions for machinery and fuel used in renewable energy industries
- Loan reimbursements and grants for education and careers in green technology and health information technology
- Tax credits for angel investments in bioscience, photonics, information technology and green businesses

CRACKING DOWN ON DISTRACTED DRIVING

The updated law, which does not impact drivers who go hands-free, will send 25 percent of all fees collected for citations on cell phone users and texters back to the municipality that issues the ticket, giving local police a greater incentive to crack down on this dangerous behavior. This law goes into effect on October 1.

HELPING SENIORS, HELPING WORKING FAMILIES, SAVING TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The state's Alzheimer's Respite Care Program is designed to help support caregivers. The initiative offers a maximum of \$3,500 in services per year and a maximum of 30 days of out-of-home care services per year to each applicant who meets certain income and eligibility guidelines.

The alternative is usually a nursing home, which can cost over \$133,000 per year for a patient. An adult day care or other types of home care cost just a fraction of that. Prevention, cost-effectiveness and a better quality of life are the reasons we fought so hard to re-open the program.